この音とまれ！

14

アミュー

JUMP COMICS SQ.

★この作品はフィクションです。実在の人物・団体・事件などには、いっさい関係ありません。デジタル配信用に再編集を行っています。

この音とまれ！ 14

アミュー

JUMP COMICS SQ.

登場人物紹介

あらすじ

会場内で母の姿を目にし、自分の気持ちを届けようと弾き出した、さとわ。そして彼女の音を支え、包み込む愛達の演奏に、観客達は引き込まれていった。持てる力の全てを発揮した時瀬高校は、悲願の全国大会出場となるか…!?

久遠 愛

時瀬高箏曲部員。祖父の大事にしていた箏について深く知るために入部する。短気で口は悪いが、箏に対しては真摯に向き合い、真面目に練習に取り組む。

鳳月さとわ

時瀬高箏曲部員。箏の家元"鳳月会"の生まれ。現在は破門されて一人暮らしをしているが、母との仲を修復したいと思っている。

来栖妃呂

時瀬高箏曲部員。武蔵の同級生で彼に惹かれている。滝浪の言葉で、その気持ちを押し殺さず、大事にするようになった。

倉田武蔵

時瀬高箏曲部部長。頼りなさそうに見えるが、面倒見が良く、周囲への気配りも出来るので、クセの強い新入部員達から信頼されている。

堺 通孝

時瀬高箏曲部員。実康同様、愛の力になりたくて入部した。今は純粋に箏の演奏を楽しんでいる。

足立実康

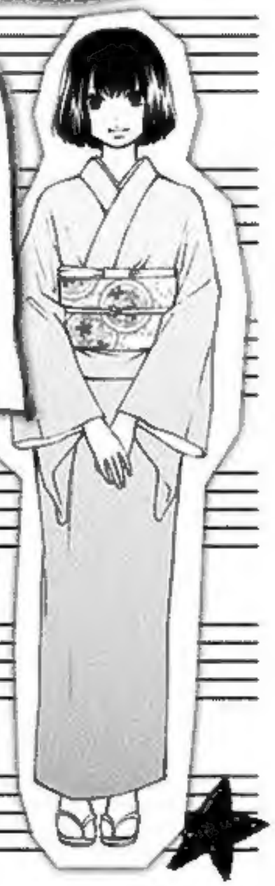
時瀬高箏曲部員。元々ギターをやっていたので、上達も早い。愛と共に十七絃という大役を任される。

水原光太

時瀬高箏曲部員。人なつこい性格で、愛とは中学からの友達。課題のリズム感を養うために頑張っている。

堂島 晶

時瀬高箏曲部の外部指導者。さとわが失格になった大会で1位を取った実力者。



高岡哲生

愛とは子供の頃からのくされ縁。数少ない愛の理解者で、彼が起こす問題をフォローすることも。

滝浪涼香

時瀬高箏曲部顧問。部員達の演奏に心を動かされ、本格的な指導に乗り出す。

Kono Oto Tomare 14

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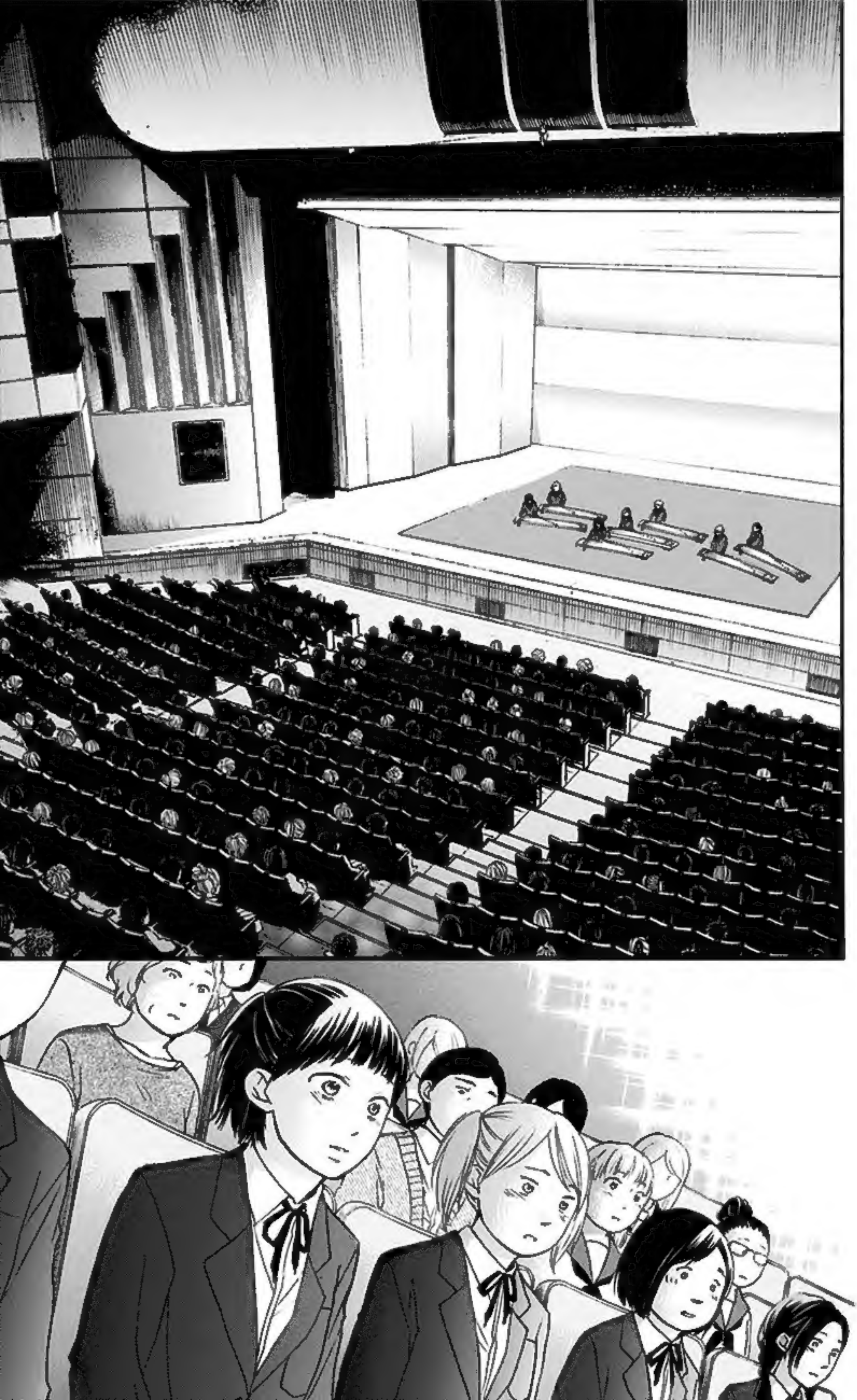


THUD

?

?

SILENCE...

U- UM... WE ARE DONE...

WHAT ...

...?

DARKENING

NO APPLAUSE ...?

TH- THIS IS SUPER WEIRD...

OOO OOOOH

.....

...

O-OKAY.

SURE.

EVERY-ONE!

THE LIGHTS HAVE GONE OUT, SO GRAB YOUR INSTRUMENTS AND RUN!

Clap

Clap

Clap

Clap

Clap

Clap

Clap

Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap

W-

WHY NOW?

WAAAAA~

WAAA clap clap clap

HEY...

THE APPLAUSE CAME AT A WEIRD TIME.

IT WAS AFTER THE LIGHTS WENT OFF.

I THINK TODAY'S PERFOR-MANCE WAS OUR BEST SO FAR.

TAKEZOU-SENPAI~!!

BAM

Huh

I WONDER IF IT WAS BECAUSE OUR PERFORMANCE WAS WEIRD.

THERE'S NO WAY!

EVERY-ONE!

WELL DONE!

AKI-CHAN-SENSEI!

SUZU-CHAN-SENSEI!

GRAB

AH

DON'T HOLD BACK!

BE HON-EST!

GLOMP

kyaa

WAA AAAA AAH

WERE WE THAT BAD?!

HOW WAS IT?!

LOOK SO WORRIED...

WHY DO YOU ALL

SUCH A MARVELOUS PERFOR-MANCE!

WHEN YOU GAVE

RELIEVED

MOVE ALONG.

COME ON NOW. LET'S NOT BLOCK THE WHOLE HALLWAY.

AAH, YEAH.

IT WAS ALL RIGHT.

TAKINAMI -SENSEI?

ISN'T THAT SO,

WAIT-

TAKINAMI -SENSEI!

ALL I CAN HEAR IS WHAT AKIRA-SENSEI SAID!

I-

I...

AKIRA -SENSEI PRAISED US.

C-

CALM DOWN, KOUTA.

UWAAH! I KNEW IT! IT WAS WEIRD!

SUZUKA -CHAN, YOU BIG DUMMY!

"All right," he says.

TAKINAMI, YOU SUCK!

I AM ALWAYS DIRECT AND TRUTHFUL.

IT WAS TRULY GREAT-

YOU'RE NOT BEING HONEST.

FOR WHAT THEY ARE NOW,

A PERFOR-MANCE LIKE THAT IS A GIVEN.

AH, YES... IT'S JUST FINALLY SINKING IN THAT IT'S DONE.

YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT.

I CAN BARELY STAND AFTER ALL THAT~

HOUTSUKI -CHAN? YOU OKAY?

You're spacing out

Eh

...

ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO WAIT FOR THE RESULTS.

YEAH.

SNIFFLE

AND THE SKILLS OF THE REST ...!!

I HAD NO IDEA HOUTSUKI SATOWA WAS EVEN STILL AROUND.

SCARY~ WHAT WAS THAT?

SOME-HOW I ENDED UP CRYING.

drip drip

THAT TOKISE HIGH SURE WAS GOOD.

AAAAH, DAMMIT.

SHIT!!

Doujima Akira

WHO'S THEIR ADVI-SOR?

THOSE TWO HAVE TEAMED UP NOW?!

THE ONE WHOSE THUNDER WAS SLIGHTLY STOLEN BY HOUTSUKI'S DISQUALIFICATION?

THE DOUJIMA AKIRA WHO WON THE NATIONAL COMPETITION?

D-DOUJIMA AKIRA?!

WH-WHAT?!

SNIFF

I NEED TO...MAKE A SPECIAL REPORT.

TSUKAJI-SAN, YOUR NOSE!

spaced-out

TREMBLE TREMBLE

EXCITED

WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED?!!

I WAS ONLY BUILDING SUPPORT FOR KANZAKI,

TRYING MY BEST TO BALANCE THE REST AROUND HIM,

BUT TOKISE, THEIR SONG-

AMAZING... WHAT A PERFOR-MANCE.

THE SONG AND WHAT THEY DID ON STAGE...

WERE WONDER-FUL.

AH, DAMMIT ...

I AM GOING TO LEAVE SONG-WRITING AFTER THIS.

TODAY IS GOING TO BE MY LAST DAY...

IT BROUGHT OUT ALL OF THEIR CHARACTERS, EACH IN THEIR OWN PART.

YET,

I'M ITCHING TO START WRITING ANOTHER SONG.

HEY, TAKAOKA -KUN,

I DON'T HAVE ANY MORE.

WE'RE OUT OF TISSUES.

WHOSE DO YOU THINK THEY WERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?

UU.

UUU.

UUU..

AAAA AAA UWA

STARTLED

DRIP DRIP DRIP DRIP

HEY, WHAT'S WRONG?!

AH, I-I'M SORRY, I WAS TOO OVERCOME WITH EMOTION...

TAKAOKA -KUN, TISSUE!!

LIKE I SAID, I DON'T HAVE ANY.

USE-LESS.

WHAT?!

SNIFFLE

WHINE

FUJI-MOTO -KUN,

YOU SAID THEY WERE LIKE A COLLECTION OF JIGSAWS.

HUH?

YEAH...?

HEY, KINO-SHITA.

HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO CRY?

I MEAN, IT WAS QUITE SOME-THING...

IT WAS PRETTY AMAZING, BUT...

AND THEY DID THEIR BEST AT EVERY MOMENT.

THAT'S WHY...

SO MANY THINGS HAPPENED,

BUT THEN,

I'M SURE IN THE BEGINNING, THEY WERE LIKE THAT-

LIKE US...

AAA...

IF ONLY I HAD-

I'M SURE WE COULD'VE DONE SO MANY THINGS TOO...!

IF I HAD WORKED JUST A BIT HARDER,

WHAT'S WITH THAT?

PHUH

IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S TOO LATE.

.....

LET'S START BY FINDING NEW MEMBERS NEXT SPRING.

WE JUST NEED TO WORK HARDER...

EH...?

WE HAVE TIME TO LOOK FOR A NEW STAGE.

BUT WE'RE SOPHO-MORES.

YOU KEEP SAYING TODAY WAS OUR LAST PERFOR-MANCE.

WELL... I AM FREE...

I MIGHT AS WELL STICK AROUND.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, KAGARI?

FUJIMOTO -KUN...

KAGARI -SAN,

IS THIS ALL OF THEM?

YES,

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

I HATE GIRLS WHO CRY EASILY!

AAH! NOW YOU'RE CRYING OVER THIS?

ahaha

FUJIMOTO, SHUT UP.

VROOM...

THERE'S STILL SOME TIME LEFT UNTIL THE ANNOUNCE-MENTS

THE PERFOR-MANCES SHOULD BE OVER BY NOW.

WELL THEN,

GREAT WORK, EVERY-ONE.

YOU DID WELL TODAY.

WHAT ARE YOU GUYS GOING TO DO?

GO BACK IN?

UH... I DON'T KNOW...

I'M THIRSTY.

I

THEN LET'S GO GET SOME DRINKS!

U-UM

EXCUSE ME!

MAY I LEAVE FOR A MOMENT?

HUH?

SH-
SHE

MAY
HAVE LEFT
ALREADY,
BUT...

I
JUST...

M-
MY...

MY
MOTHER...
CAME TO
HEAR...
APPARENT-
LY...

GRAB

I'M
SORRY
FOR
BEING
SELFISH
LIKE
THIS,
BUT-

WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SOMETHING EARLIER?!

HOUTSUKI'S MOM-CHAN, PLEASE!!

PLEASE STILL BE HERE!

UOOO!

YOU SHOULD'VE JUST LEFT THE CLEANING TO US!!

THAT'S RIGHT, HOUTSUKI -CHAN!

TAKINAMI -SENSEI...

EH... DO THEY ALL HAVE TO GO?

WE'RE LEAVING FOR A MOMENT! EXCUSE US!

WHAT?

WE SHOULD GO AS WELL!

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER

ALL RIGHT! SPLIT UP AND SEARCH!

NOOO~ SHE'S NOT IN THE LOBBY. MAYBE SHE ALREADY LEFT?

EH? CHIKA-KUN, YOU KNOW WHAT HOUTSUKI'S MOM LOOKS LIKE?

SHE COULD BE SOMEWHERE ELSE.

SH-SHE'S

WEARING A KIMONO.

I KNEW IT!

EH...

NOT AT ALL!

I JUST NEED TO LOOK FOR A TRADITIONAL OLD LADY, RIGHT?

RUSH

AND SEND A TEXT TO HOUTSUKI -CHAN!

Y-YES!

IF YOU FIND HER, STOP HER AT ANY COST!

IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, THIS IS WHERE SHE SAT...

DASH

HOUTSUKI -SAN?

KIMONO...

KIMONO...

THEN SHE'S NOT IN THE AUDIENCE?

KYAA

!!

Kimono!!

HOUTSUKI'S MOM!!

DAMMIT... SHE CAN'T HAVE GONE BACK YET.

But I'm married

SORRY!

NO, SHE CAN'T BE-

MAYBE MITSUI'S MOM...

KH!

FWISH

Hiro-senpai
Sorry, Houtsuki-chan!
She's not here

PANT
PANT

SHE'S NOT HERE EITHER...

DID SHE REALLY...?

...

BACK-STAGE...

ALL THAT'S LEFT IS...

step

step

step

step

WHAT AM I DOING...

SHE CAN'T POSSIBLY BE HERE...

WHAT AM I...

HOPING FOR?

Practi
room

SATOWA

GLANCE

Bump

BUHA!

!

!

KIMONO!

I'M GLAD...

I THOUGHT WE'D MISS EACH OTHER.

BA-DUMP

I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU.

BA-DUMP

...

BA-DUMP

YOUR PERFOR-MANCE.

I HEARD

I'M SORRY...

I UNDER-STAND VERY WELL

THAT YOU CAN NEVER FORGIVE ME.

I LEFT DEEP, DEEP WOUNDS IN YOU.

CAN'T POSSIBLY BE TAKEN BACK.

I DID TO YOU

THE THINGS...

BUT-

I KNOW I HAVE NO RIGHT,

SAYING THIS SO LATE-

WHICH IS WHY,

ALL I WOULD ASK

IS TO HAVE ONE MORE CHANCE TO SEE EACH OTHER EYE TO EYE.

I-

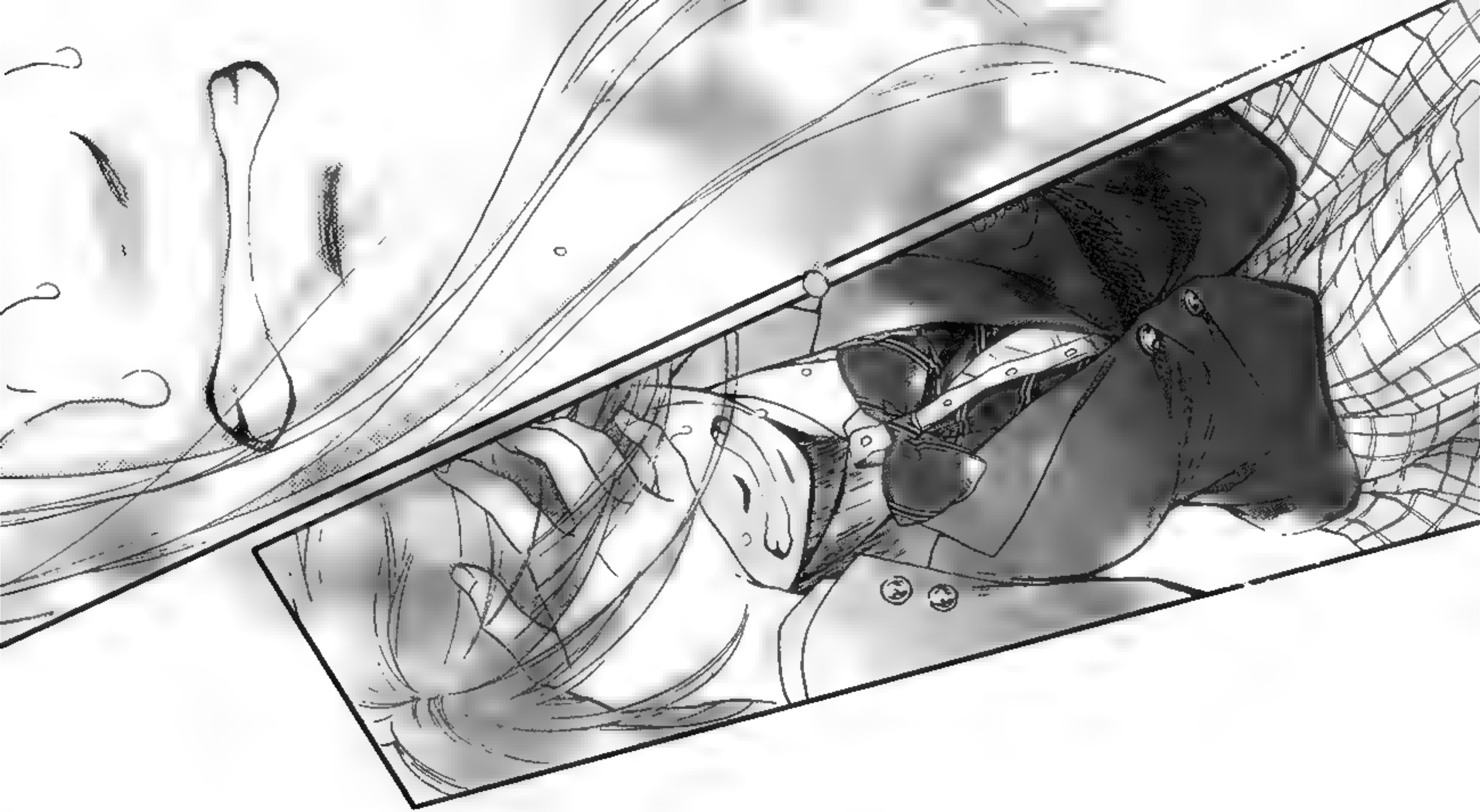
THIS TIME, I REACHED YOU...?

I DIDN'T-

I REALLY DIDN'T MAKE A MISTAKE?

I REALLY REACHED YOU, MOM!

WOOSH



ահ..
ահահ...

DASH

WAIT!

KOUTA!!

HEY!

IDIOT ...

UWAAAH

I'M SO GLAD! HOUTSUKI -CHAN~!

OOPS

UUUU...

H-

HOUTSUKI... CHAN...

AHHHH

GIVE ME A BREAK!

NO, NOT AT ALL.

JUST WHEN YOU CONNECTED WITH YOUR MOM AGA N...

I'M SORRY, HOUTSUKI -CHAN.

I WAS JUST SO HAPPY...

I'M SORRY.

Read the mood

Now? now

HOW COULD YOU RUN OUT AT THAT MOMENT, KOUTA?!

I'M SORRY...

AFTER SEARCHING THE WHOLE PLACE FOR ME... DOING SOMETHING SO EMBAR-RASSING...

MOREOVER, I SHOULD APOLOGIZE.

.....

HOW LIVELY.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? IT WASN'T EMBARRASSING AT ALL!

IF I RE-CA-L, YOU WERE ON THE 17-STRIN-GER-

AH, I'M... KUDOU...

YOU REALLY ARE ALIKE, HOUTSUKI.

SIT

NO-THING. THERE WAS SOMEONE ELSE WITH YOU ON THE 17-STRINGERS.

IT WAS MARVELOUS.

I SEE. SO YOU'RE THE ONE...

!

?

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING MY CHILD.

EH- AH... UM...

HELPING AND SUPPORTING ARE VERY DIFFERENT.

IT'S USUALLY ME WHO'S BEING HELPED...

SHE HOLDS YOU VERY DEARLY.

THIS CLUB ALL OF YOU.

THANKS
...

GUYS, I'M SO THIRSTY NOW I'M STARTING TO MUM-MIFY.

YUP YUP.

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL...

AAH!

Running, crying

...

OH, RIGHT, WE WERE ABOUT TO GO GET DRINKS.

Houtsuki Ahr~ chan's so soft

WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT ...?

AKIRA -SAN.

MASTER.

SURE.

CHIKA! ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS FOR WHO BUYS DRINKS.

I APOLOGIZE FOR BEING SO FORCEFUL.

NOT AT ALL.

THANK YOU FOR BRINGING ME HERE.

THE PEOPLE IN THIS CLUB,

THEY WERE AS YOU SAID.

DAMMIT...

YES.

Get wrecked! Scissors!
Hahaa!

Beep
BUDUMP

I'M SHAKING THIS JUNK ALL DAMN FOR THEM. SODA...

MMM...

GINGER ALE FOR KOUTA, FANTA FOR...

CLINK CLINK

WHY AM I SO WEAK...

HUH?

WHAT'S THIS MESS OF HAIR?

THUD THUD THUD THUD

ONEE-CHAN!

I FOUND YOU!!

DEPRESSED...

FLINCH

UWO OH?!

BAA——AM

!

The mess is growing...

....

AH, IS THAT SO... I'M SORRY-

NENE!

I FINALLY FOUND YOU!

NENE'S BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU FOR SO LONG!

I CAME TO BUY DRINKS.

I HAVEN'T BEEN LOOKING.

ABACK

AAAH! YOU!!

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN THERE?!

WHAT ARE YOU WATCH-ING FOR?!

AH! IT'S BECAUSE NENE IS SO CUTE-

HUH?

DUDUMP

Beep

DUDUMP

Beep

AND THEN, STRAW-BERRY MILK FOR ME...

YOU'RE FEELING LIKE THE CHAMPION ALREADY?

HUH...?

YOU MUST THINK YOU'VE WON ALREADY.

SO CASUALLY BUYING DRINKS LIKE THIS

AND YOU DON'T?

touch

FOR ME...

FOR US...

TO US, THAT IS WHAT MUSIC IS...!

UNITY IS MASTER-FUL!

BEAU-TIFUL.

UNITY IS EVERY-THING.

I FEEL LIKE AN IDIOT.

WE WERE SO DESPERATE TO MATCH EACH OTHER PERFECTLY...

DESPITE THAT,

HEARING A PERFOR-MANCE LIKE YOURS...

GHH!

ONEE -CHAN?

fwip

AS I SAID-

BUT THERE'S SO MUCH MORE TO IT.

CALL IT MATCHING OR UNITY,

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

WHAT...

WITH THAT MANY MEMBERS,

WITH THAT SPEED, YET STILL PLAYING PERFECTLY.

THAT WAS REALLY COOL.

I THINK

BUT, WELL

AAA AH

ONII-CHAN, HERE.

HUH?

GRAB

WE'RE GONNA WIN THOUGH.

Ehehe

T-TREA-SURE...? Why me.?

IT'S A PINK ROSE! IT'S ORIGAMI!

OH

OKAY ...

IT'S NENE'S TREA-SURE.

NENE!

WHAT?!

W-WHAT'S THIS?!

.....

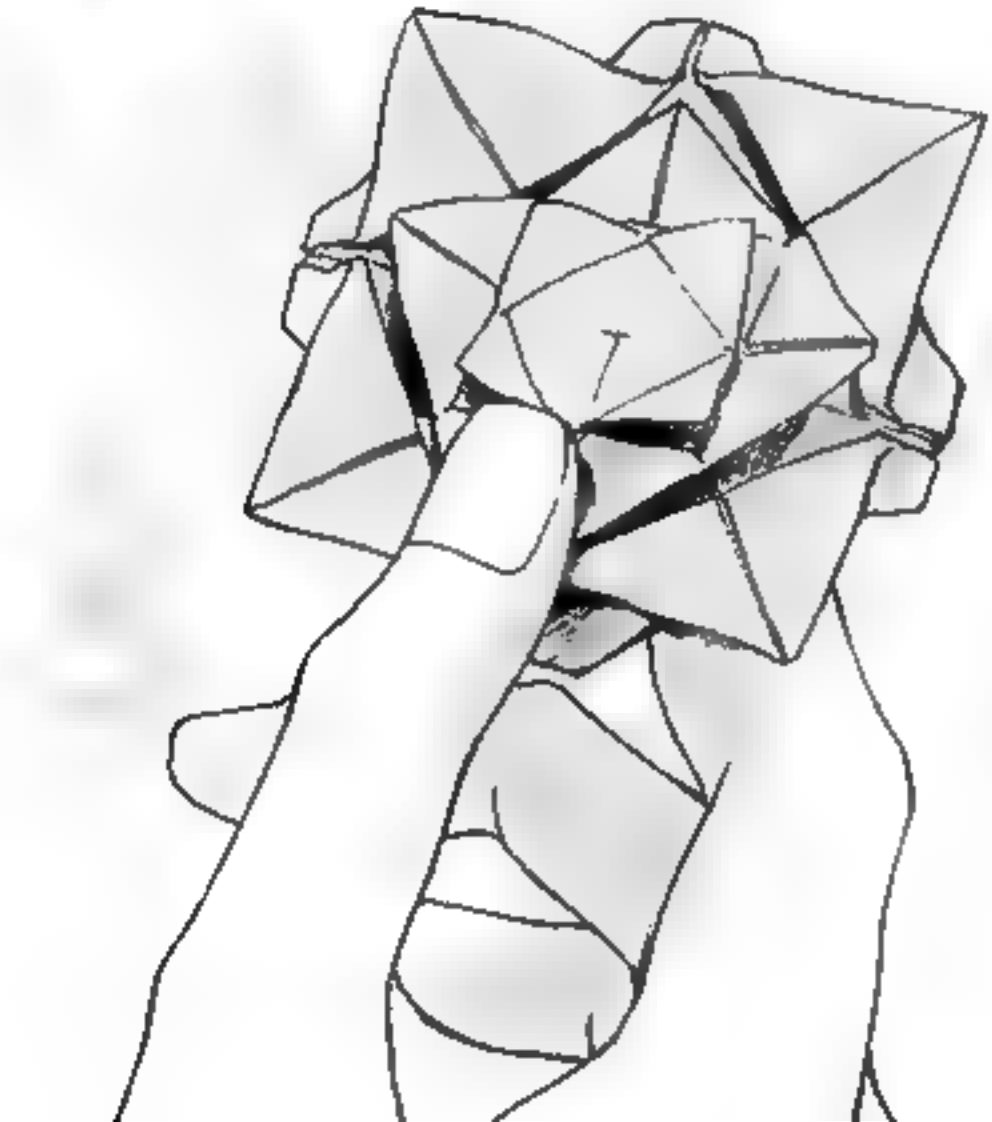
THAT'S TOO LONG ...!

KEEP IT SAFE FOR ALL ETERNITY!

EH?

VERY... YEAH.

HAPPY?!



NENE LOVES THIS!!

IT'S STRAW-BERRY MILK!

Rustle

TADA

STRAWBERRY MILK

ALL RIGHT, LET'S TRADE.

THANK YOU! I'M KEEPING IT SAFE FOR ALL ETERNITY!

NO, YOU DRINK IT.

THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR.

I-

.....

HUH ...?

SURE! I'LL SEE YOU TO-MOR-ROW!

BYE.

I TOLD YOU!

I TOLD YOU THAT YOU WEREN'T FIT TO PLAY ALONGSIDE SATOWA -CHAN

I'M TAKING THAT BACK.

GGH!

IT'S VEXING, BUT I HAVE TO ACCEPT IT.

IT WAS AMAZING!!

YOUR PERFORMANCE TODAY!

I KNOW!

I'M SO PISSED!

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO SAY "THANKS" OR SOMETHING THERE!!

STRAWBERRIES REALLY DON'T SUIT YOU.

EH??

NO, I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT NENE!

LOOK WHAT I JUST GOT! ONEE-CHAN!

NENE'S HAPPY~

Huh?! I got thirsty

Hey, Chika! My cola is half gone!

Chika! You bastard!

PSSSH

Aaah!

WE'VE DECIDED ON THE RESULTS. SO,

TAP

NOBODY HAS ANY ISSUES WITH IT, I PRESUME?

NONE.

AH

WE WILL NOW PRESENT THE RESULTS AND BEGIN THE PRIZE CEREMONY IN THE MAIN HALL.

THEN LET US GO.

!

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS, PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR SEATS.

I-IT'S FINALLY HERE...

LET'S GO, KAZUSA.

YEAH.

Yeah. You'll be fine

Aaah! I'm so ner- vous

Shut up already!

I AM DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO YOU ALL.

THERE WERE MANY HIGH-LEVEL PERFORMANCES THAT WOULD BE SUITABLE TO THE NATIONAL STAGE.

I WANT TO CONGRATULATE EVERYONE ON YOUR HARD WORK TODAY.

FIRSTLY,

IT HASN'T BEEN...

THIS HARD TO JUDGE IN A LONG TIME.

sigh...

HIMESAKA, HAKUTO, AND TOKISE COULD ALL BE SENT AND PROBABLY RECEIVE MEDALS.

YES.

MUST IT BE ONLY ONE SCHOOL WE SEND TO THE NATIONALS?

I HAVE TO SAY,

IT IS, WITHOUT A DOUBT TOKISE.

BUT AS WE ARE TO CHOOSE ONE SCHOOL,

THEY WERE TRULY AMAZING.

THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN SO MOVED BY A HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMANCE.

THEIR TECHNIQUE WAS UNBLEMISHED,

BUT FIRST AND FOREMOST,

I WANT MORE PEOPLE TO HEAR THAT SAME NUMBER.

IT WAS PURE EMOTION.

I COULD FEEL THEIR DEEP ADMIRATION OF MUSIC.

MIDORIYAMA -SENSEI...

!

I OPPOSE.

EASY TO LISTEN AND REMEMBER, I SUPPOSE.

CERTAINLY, THE MELODY IS CATCHY AND THE COMPOSITION SIMPLE TO UNDERSTAND

LATELY, PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SO FIXATED ON MODERN TAKES.

THEIR CHOICE OF SONG IS WORTHY OF PRAISE.

I SUPPORT HAKUTO.

THEY AREN'T DIFFICULT IN ANY WAY.

BUT THOSE ARE NOT SONGS TO TRULY "LISTEN" TO.

BUT WHEN I THINK OF THIS AS A COMPETITION... HIMESAKA...

I WAS MOST MOVED BY TOKISE, SURE...

WADA -SENSEI, HOW ABOUT YOU?

MMM... LET'S SEE...

I CAN SEE THAT...

THAT SORT OF TECH-NIQUE AND IS SUFFICIENT UNITY FOR GOLD IN A TOURNAMENT.

MATSUNAGA -SENSEI...?

WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?

THAT IS HOW IMPRESSED I AM.

I TRULY MEAN IT

I WISH I COULD SEND ALL OF YOU TOTHE NATIONALS.

INTO YOUR PERFOR-MANCE.

YOU'VE ALL POURED SO MUCH INTO THIS,

HOWEVER..

COMPETITION IS A MISERABLE THING.

CAN BE CHOSEN FOR THE NATIONALS.

ONLY ONE SCHOOL

MUST BE GIVEN.

A RANK

LET US ANNOUNCE THE RESULTS.

I CAN'T SEE IT BEING ANY OTHER SCHOOL.

THEY WERE FAR BEYOND EVERYBODY ELSE

IN THE SENSE OF "MUSIC."

I UNDER-STAND WHAT MIDORIYAMA -SENSEI IS TRYING TO SAY.

CERTAINLY THERE EXIST SONGS THAT ARE AND AREN'T EASY TO LISTEN TO,

BUT WHAT WE LOOK FOR IS A PERFORMANCE THAT MAKES IT EASY TO LISTEN.

AND SURELY THEY WEREN'T AT THAT LEVEL.

IF WE WERE TO TALK ABOUT A MARVELOUS PERFOR-MANCE,

SOMETHING THAT EXPERTS AND LAYMEN COULD TOGETHER ADMIRE

BEYOND THE REACH OF MERE WORDS,

ABLE TO TOUCH PEOPLE BEYOND THIS CIRCLE AND CULTURE

THE 32ND KANAGAWA PREFECTURE HIGH SCHOOL KOTO NATIONAL PRELIMINARY TOURNAMENT.

IS WHAT I WANT US TO SHINE A LIGHT ON.

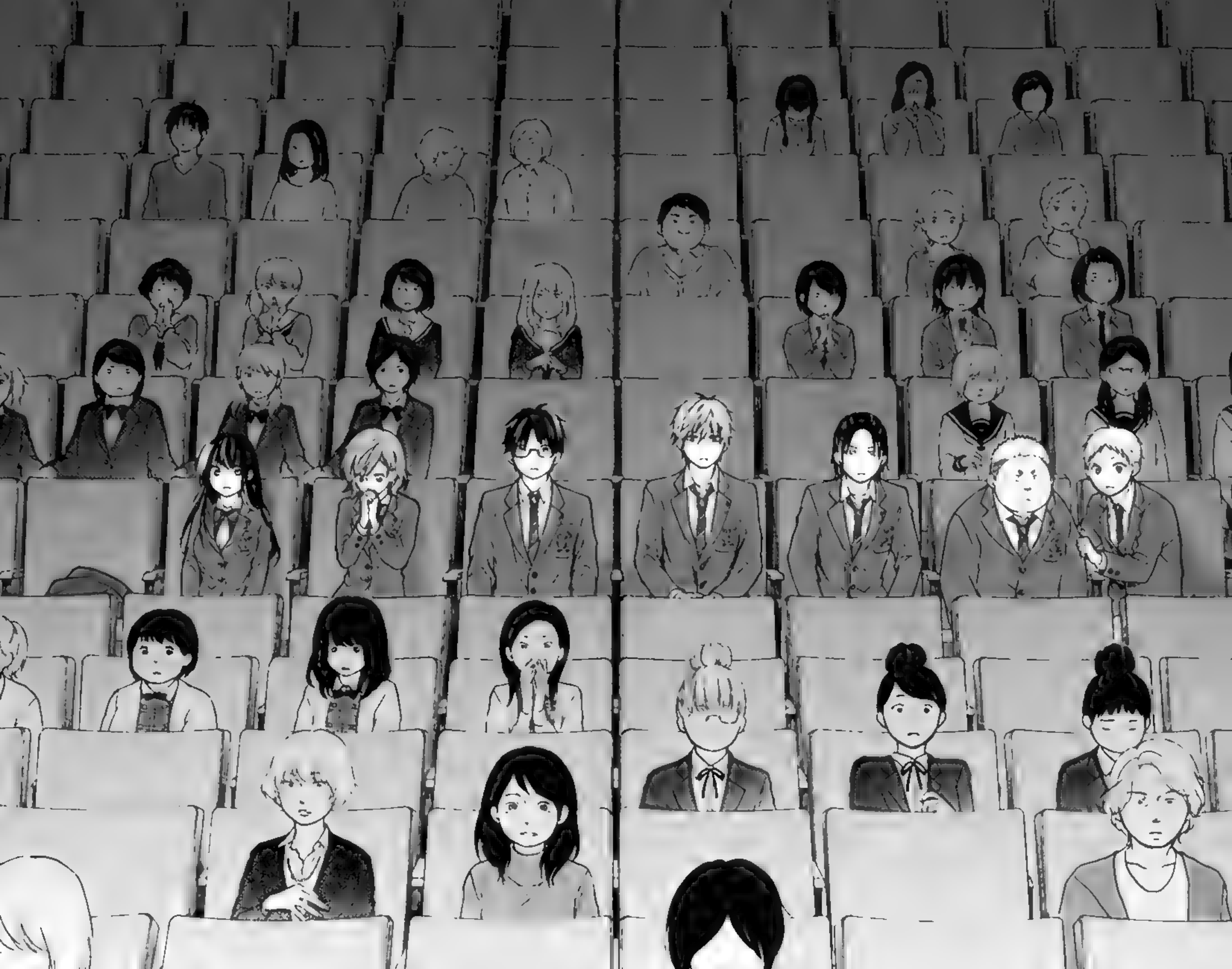
THAT SORT OF PERFOR-MANCE

THE WINNER, AND THUS

THE SCHOOL CHOSEN TO REPRESENT US IN THE NATIONALS IS-

TOKISE HIGH SCHOOL!!

PREFECTURAL



UWO OOO OOO OOO OOO OOO !!!!!

ARE YOU FOR REAL?! ARE YOU FOR REAL?!!

WE WON!!

WE REALLY WON!

HO-HOUTSUKI-CHAN! WE WON!

haha

WELL DONE.

NATIONALS! THEY'RE GOING TO THE NATIO-NALS!!

ISAKI-SAN! THEY DID IT!

KYAAH! KYAAH!!

Clap

Clap

Clap

Clap

Clap

Clap

Clap

Wa!

NO WAY.

REALLY?
The nationals?!

CHICKA!

WE DiD IT!!

KUDOU -KUN!

IT ISN'T OVER YET.

WE CAN STILL CONTINUE.

WE'VE ALL MADE IT TO THE NATIONALS!!

#54 Starting line

KAMIGAWA PREFECTURE HIGH SCHOOL KOTO NATIONAL PRELIMINARY QUALIFICATION TOURNAMENT.

THAT IS ALL FOR THE 32ND

EVERY-ONE, WELL DONE.

ISAKI!

TETSUKI!

MASHIRO -SENPAI?

CHEERS.

'GRATS ON NATIONALS!

YOU'RE ALL AMAZING!

YAY! ISAKI -SAN ♡

EH? SHE'S CHIKA-KUN'S AUNT?

SO YOUNG!!

I had heard rumours

ha

HOW ABOUT THAT, ISAKI?

JUST LIKE YOU SAID, I WRESTLED US TO THE NATIONALS-

YOU DID WELL!

Pat Pat

YOU MUST'VE WORKED HARD.

GOOD BOY!

S-

IT WAS A COINCIDENCE OF COURSE! I SAT NEXT TO ISAKI-SAN AND GOT TO KNOW THEM...

MASHIRO -SENPAI WAS HERE AS WELL?

haha

SUCH A GOOD BOY.

STOP THAT! IDIOT!

DON'T GET SHY~

MASHIRO -SENPA...

FOR LETTING ME HEAR SUCH A PERFOR-MANCE.

THANK YOU SO MUCH

THAT'S AMAZING!

YOU MADE IT TO THE NATIONALS!

CONGRATU-LATIONS, TAKEZOU.

HIRO
-SENPAI.

THIS...

I'VE NEVER BEEN MORE HAPPY IN MY LIFE.

I REALLY AM

BLESSED.

YEAH!

ME TOO!

HOUTSUKI -CHAN...

YOU'VE BEEN CALM FROM THE START, TAKINAMI -SENSEI...

THAT'S QUITE SOME-THING.

YES, EVERY-ONE DID WELL.

KYAA KYAA

WE CLEARED THE FIRST STAGE, I GUESS.

INSIDE I'M COVERED IN COLD SWEAT.

...

EH?

GIMME A BREAK.

THAT ISN'T...

THERE'S MERIT IN SONGS THAT ARE EASY TO LISTEN TO AND LIGHT ON THE MELODY.

IT WOULD BE BECAUSE OF MY ARRAN-GEMENT.

IF, BY SOME CHANCE, THEY WEREN'T GOING TO MAKE IT TO THE NATIONALS AFTER THAT PERFORMANCE,

I AM RELIEVED NOW.

AH, THAT'S NOT WHAT I-

WHY DOES THAT MAKE YOU SO HAPPY...?

AKIRA!

IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN YOU ACT SO FEARFUL, TAKINAMI-SENSEI.

HE HE.

HE...
CAME...

TO-

AH...

Thud

YOU DID IT! THE NATIO-NALS!!

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

AH...

NO...

SUD-DENLY I'M LOST FOR WORDS.

YOUR STUDENTS ARE AMAZ-ING!

OH MAN, I GOT ALL TEARY-EYED HEARING THAT PERFOR-MANCE!

BUT THAT'S TO BE EX-PECTED, WITH YOU TEACHING THEM!

I'M THE ADVISOR, TAKINAMI.

NICE TO MEET YOU.

AH, SURE.

NOT AT ALL.

I'M AKIRA'S BROTHER! THANK YOU FOR TAKING CARE OF MY LITTLE SISTER!

COULD YOU POSSIBLY BE THE TEACHER FOR TOKISE HIGH?

What's up?

LAUGH

OH!

AKIRA -CHAN -SENSEI'S BROTHER?!

WHOA!

OOOH! THEY DO LOOK ALIKE.

AKI-CHAN -SENSEI IS VERY SPARTAN THOUGH~

OOH!

HEY!

he he

REALLY ...

I WAS VERY SURPRISED WHEN I SAW YOU ONSTAGE

AND WITH SO MANY BOYS! IT LOOKED SUPER FUN!

YUP! IT'S FUN!

SO YOU'RE SPARTAN?

THAT-

THAT MUCH WAS ONLY NORMAL!

BUT

IF IT WASN'T AKIRA-SENSEI,

I DON'T THINK WE WOULD BE WHERE WE ARE NOW.

THANK YOU, AKIRA -SENSEI.

EH ?!

GRAB

WOW... SAYING THAT ALOUD REALLY IS EMBARRASS-ING...

YUP! I'M GLAD WE HAVE AKI-CHAN -SENSEI!

YEAH!

What?
What?
What?

IDIOT! YOU'RE SAYING TOO MUCH!

I JUST WANT AKI-CHAN -SENSEI'S HUG LIKE ALWAYS!

NOT AKIRA OR ANY-THING?!

BRO? SHOULD YOU REALLY BE HUGGING US HERE?

HEY! WHAT??

WHAT I HEARD TODAY...

IT'S A SOUND THAT IS FULL OF LOVE TOWARDS THE KOTO.

IT'S WARM.

AND PURELY KIND.

IS HONEST

THE SOUND YOU HAVE

AKIRA...

THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME HERE TODAY.

THE SOUND OF TODAY.

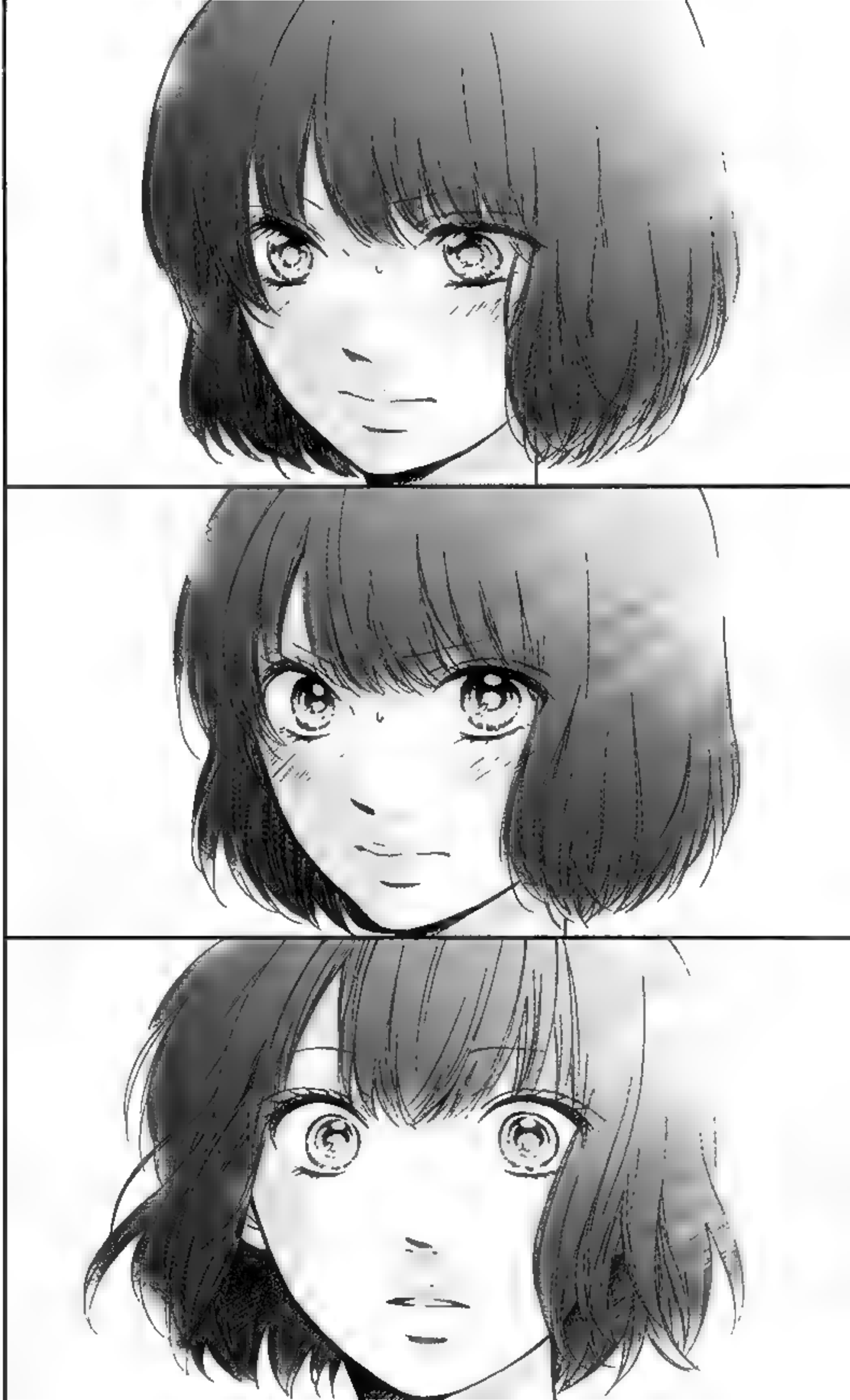
TO HAVE HEARD THIS-

I AM GLAD

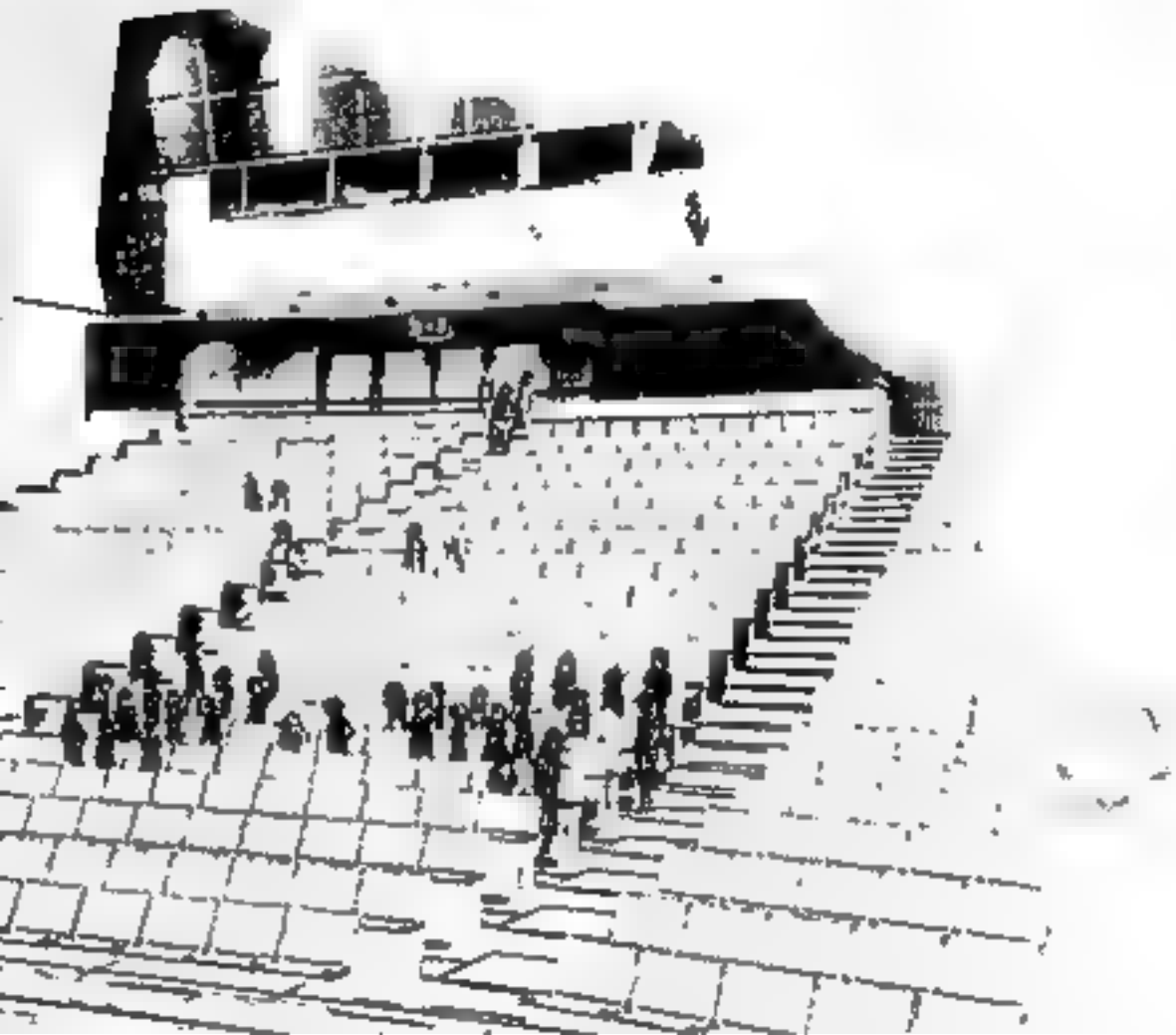
YES...

THANK YOU,

BROTHER.



My lovely sister!
Hey! Don't!!



KAZU-

KAZUSA

IT'S ABOUT TIME WE GO.

clench

FROM THE MOMENT I HEARD TOKISE.

SOMEHOW, I ALREADY KNEW

I KNOW

WHILE I WAS...

THAT GUY...

WAS CONFIDENT IN THEIR SOUND UNTIL THE VERY END,

DON'T CRY!
DON'T CRY!!!
DON'T CRY!
DON'T CRY!
DON'T CRY!

HAVE THE RIGHT TO CRY!

I DON'T

IT'S NOT JUST YOU WHO'S FEELING DOWN-

HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO SULK?

HEY, YOU.

WAKABA.

KH...

LET'S PLAY TOGETHER IN THE NATIONALS!

KAZUSA.

Twitch

HEY, KAZU-

I'M SORRY !!!

I'M SORRY!

I'M SORRY!

I'M SORRY!

I'M SORRY!!!

I'M SORRY!

I'M SORRY!

I'M-

WHAT ARE YOU APOLO-GIZING FOR?

YOU HAVE NOTHING TO BE SORRY FOR

AFTER LETTING ME HEAR SUCH A WONDERFUL PERFOR-MANCE.

AND ALL THOSE SUPPORT-ING YOU,

FOR EVERYONE ON THE STAGE,

THANK YOU

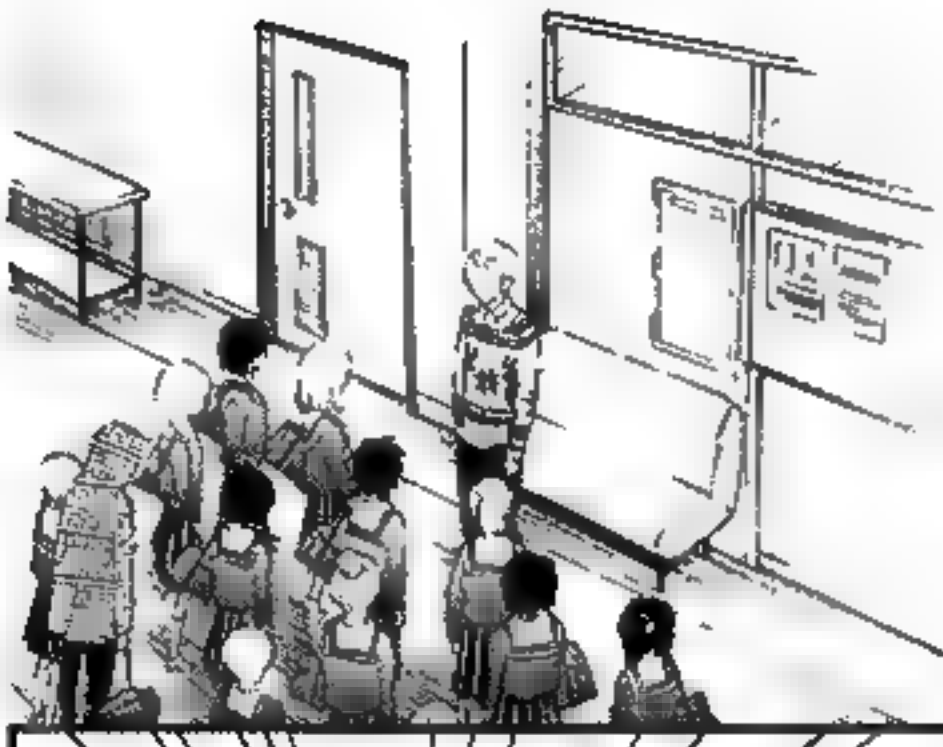
FOR WORKING SO HARD FOR US.

IT'S OKAY.

YOU CAN START AGAIN FROM HERE.

FROM HERE,

YOU CAN START BUILDING AGAIN.



STOP THAT! WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZING?
WAAAIT A MOMENT!
I AM TRULY SORRY...
WE SHOULD BE THE ONES TO APOLO-GIZE...
AFTER SAYING WE'D GIVE YOU THE NATIONALS AS A PRESENT...

JUST THAT ALONE MAKES ME HAPPY.

I'M-

THE WAY YOU PLAYED MY SONG ON THAT STAGE-

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!

WE'RE SORRY WE FORGIVE FAILED US... YOU.

IF ONLY I HAD MORE EXPERTISE AS A KOTO TEACHER...

I'M GRATEFUL TO YOU ALL. WHICH IS WHY...

Dnp

Dnp

RUSTLE

.....

EH?!

NO WAY! IS IT BECAUSE WE LOST?!

M-MIO ?!!

W-WHAT HAPPENED?!

I WANTED TO WIN.

I PLAYED, WANTING TO WIN.

TODAY, I-

YOU DON'T?!

TWIST

WELL, I DON'T.

BUT

TH-THAT'S UNUSUAL

I THOUGHT ... YOU DIDN'T CARE ABOUT WINNING OR LOSING.

WITH OUR TEA-CHER,

AND WITH EVERYONE.

TODAY

IS OUR LAST DAY

EARLIER, TO PLAY LIKE THAT

IF ONLY I HAD STARTED

COULD BE LAUGHING INSTEAD. EVERY-ONE

RIGHT NOW,

THE RESULTS COULD'VE BEEN DIFFERENT.

I'M SORRY. ...

STOP... USUALLY YOU JUST WANDER AWAY SOME-WHERE...

WHY'D YOU HAVE TO STAY STUFF LIKE THAT NOW?

HEY ...

WHEN WE'VE RELIED ON YOU ALONE FOR THIS WHOLE YEAR!

WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO SAY?

WHEN YOU SAY STUFF LIKE THAT,

sniffle

snivel

bawww

NO MORE APOLOGIZING!!

WHAT'S WITH YOU?!

OKAY! I'M NOT APOLO-GIZING EITHER!

BECAUSE!!

THAT'S ... TRUE!!

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO STARTED IT ALL!!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

WAS YOUR BEST PERFOR-MANCE EVER!

WHAT YOU DID ON THAT STAGE

WHAT IS THERE TO APOLOGIZE FOR??

FOR ME,

YOUR PERFOR-MANCE TODAY

WAS THE PROUDEST MOMENT OF MY LIFE!

I...

FROM THE MOMENT I SAW YOUR SHEET MUSIC,

!

AS THE NIGHT SKY.

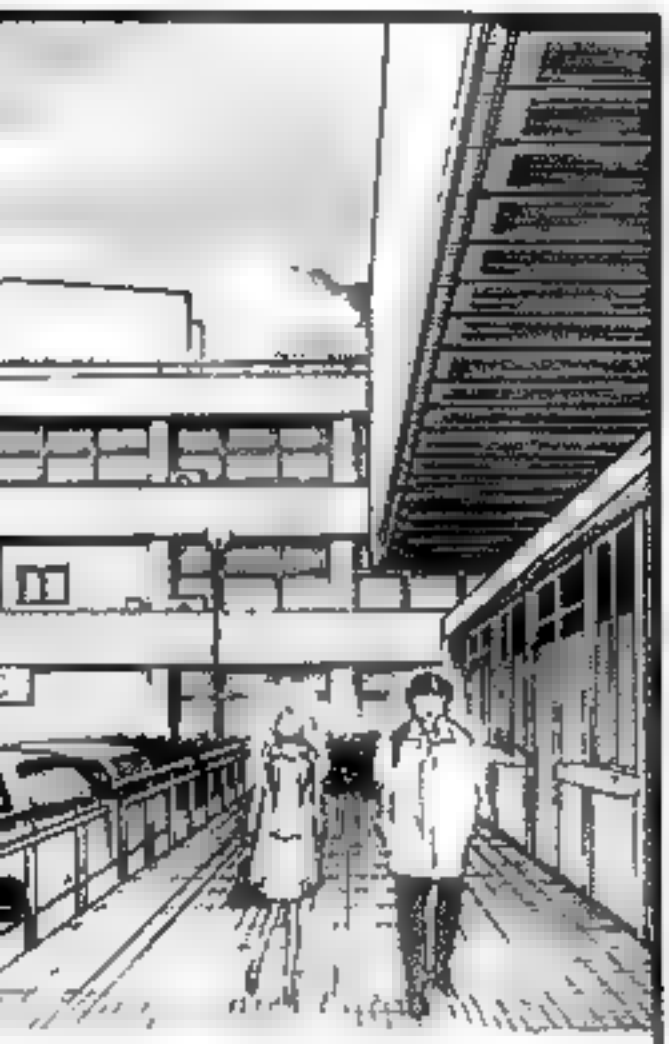
I THOUGHT THEY WERE AS BEAUTIFUL

YOUR SONG.

I LIKE

TEACHER,

I'M GLAD I PLAYED IT.



THANK YOU.

WHAT YOU SAID BEFORE THE TOURNAMENT.

NOW I KIND OF UNDERSTAND

BUT...

YOU CRIED TOO!

EHH?

I WAS SCARED FOR YOU WHEN YOU DIDN'T STOP CRYING, TSUKAJI -SAN!

AH, I DIDN'T DAMMIT. THINK I'D CRY IN THE PRELIMS...

ARE A COLLISION OF HIGH SCHOOLERS' YOUTH!

HOW THE PRELIMS

REMEMBER?

HUH?

IF ONLY I HAD DONE SOMETHING BACK WHEN I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL...

AH WELL...

AND IT WAS EXACTLY THAT!

IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S TOO LATE TO START.

IF THEY PUT IN ENOUGH LOVE AND EFFORT.

EVEN ADULTS CAN SHINE JUST AS BRIGHTLY

WHEN THEY SHOULD BE MORE FREE THAN THEIR YOUNGER COUNTER-PARTS,

WHAT A WEIRD DILEMMA

AND IT ALL JUST COMES DOWN TO THEIR OWN INITIATIVE.

OKAY...

WE JUST FORGET THAT.

THERE ARE TOO MANY ADULTS WHO THINK "I CAN'T DO IT."

GO HOME AND START WRITING THE ARTICLE!

YOU'RE MEAN!

YOU HIT ME AGAIN!

I'M GETTING REALLY HUNGRY HERE.

INSTEAD OF THIS HEAVY TALK, WANNA GO EAT SOME-WHERE?

YEAH.

I HOPE I TOOK MY NAILS WITH ME.

NOPE.

DID YOU FORGET ANYTHING?

ALL RIGHT, TIME TO GO HOME.

!

Maybe they're at the bottom

Umm...

TOKISE
HIGH!!!

HEY, KAZUSA?!

YOU... MUST WIN

BECAUSE YOU BEAT US AND ARE GOING TO THE NATIONALS.

OR I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!!!

YOU HAVE TO WIN THE WHOLE DEAL!!

OF COURSE.

WASN'T THAT OBVIOUS?

UWO OO OH ?!!

SCRAMBLE

'GRATS ON THE WIN.

I'M A BIT FRUS-TRATED WE LOST.

Again?

IT'S NICE THAT THEY'RE CHEERING FOR YOU.

GOOD LUCK

AT THE NATIONALS.

AND SO,

AFTER A LOT OF JOY

AND PAIN

HMM..

THE REPRESENTATIVE FOR KANAGAWA IS TOKISE, HUH?

THOK

IT'S REALLY GOING TO GET INTEREST-ING NOW♪

THE KANAGAWA PRELIMINARY TOURNAMENT

COMES TO A CLOSE.

Ah.

W-

What is it?

scared

he he he

I need your contact info

Let's play during winter break

#55 Nostalgic Warmth

明陵

Meiryo

TAKERU -KUN ♡

GOOD MORNING ♡

YOU LOOK AWFUL AGAIN TODAY.

WHOA!

YOUR FACE WHEN YOU LOOK AT ME IS AMAZING!

CONGRATULATIONS ON TOKISE IN ADVANCING TO NATIONALS♪

CLACK

AT THE KANAGAWA PRELIMINARIES.

I WENT TO VISIT THEM YESTERDAY.

OKAY.

SLAM

MY PARENTS WERE TALKING ABOUT IT ALL DAY YESTERDAY. IT'S GETTING ANNOYING.

YOUR BIG BROTHER IS GOING TO THE NATIONALS.

YOU'RE NOT HAPPY?

NOT LIKE IT MATTERS TO ME.

Sigh

I'LL BE THERE TOO.

YOU CAN HEAR IT AT THE NATIONALS.

TAKERUN SHOULD'VE GONE SEE IT AS WELL.

THAT'S BECAUSE THE PERFORMANCE WAS SO GREAT!

IF I FEEL LIKE IT.

WAS TOKISE THAT GREAT?

TO BE HONEST, I THOUGHT HIMESAKA WOULD WIN AGAIN.

I WAS SURPRISED TO HEAR THE RESULTS.

KOU -CHAN!

TO THINK THEY COULD CHANGE SO MUCH.

I WAS SURPRISED

THEY'RE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE OLD TOKISE.

BUT IF YOU HEARD THEIR PERFORMANCES, YOU'D COME TO THE SAME CONCLUSION.

WELL, ANYONE WOULD BE.

CONSIDERABLE RIVALS THEN, DON'T YOU THINK?

IF OUSUKE SAYS SO, THEY MUST BE

BUT THIS WILL BE TOKISE'S FIRST NATIONALS.

HUH? THAT GOOD?

I GUESS SO.

THE PERFORMANCE THEY GAVE YESTERDAY WAS FAR BEYOND OURS.

THERE'S NO TELLING WHEN AND WHO WILL FINALLY SNAP,

IF YOU GO THERE WITH THE SAME TENSION AS YOU HAD IN THE PRELIMS,

BUT YOU CAN'T BE TOO RELAXED EITHER.

FOR KANAGAWA, IT IS AROUND 8 MONTHS.

WHAT MAKES THE NATIONALS SCARY IS THE TIME BETWEEN THE PRELIMINARIES AND THE TOURNAMENT.

OR IT WILL ALL BE FOR NOTHING.

YOU STILL NEED TO MAINTAIN PEAK CONDITION ALL THE WAY TO THE STAGE

NO MATTER HOW MUCH TALENT YOU HAVE,

THAT'S ALL A PART OF THE NATIONALS!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

I WOULDN'T BE HAPPY...

WINNING BECAUSE OF THAT.

THAT'S WHY

THE USUAL CANDIDATES ARE SO STRONG.

THEY NEED TO OVERCOME THIS

THE REAL CHALLENGE FOR TOKISE BEGINS NOW.

OR THEY ARE NO MATCH FOR US.

#55 Nostalgic Warmth

WE NEED TO DECIDE ON OUR NATIONALS SONG AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

WHAT I'M SAYING IS,

WHAT KIND OF SONG SHOULD WE CHOOSE...

YEAH

SO WE CAN START PRACTISING.

IDIOT

WE CAN'T WIN THE NATIONALS LIKE THAT!!

I LIKE SONGS WITHOUT COMPLICATED RHYTHMS!

THE HARDER IT IS, THE MORE YOU WANT TO MASTER IT.

A COOL SONG WOULD BE NICE!

REST WHEN YOU ARE TOLD.

I FORBID ALL MORNING TRAINING AND MEETINGS.

MORE IMPOR-TANTLY, JUST YESTER-DAY

HM?

IT'S TRUE YOU SAID THAT STUFF.

BUT WE'RE JUST IGNOR-ING-

I WONDER WHAT YOU WERE ABOUT TO SAY.

KURATA?

"STUFF," HUH?

AH...

NOTH-ING...

WHOA!!

TA-TAKINAMI -SENSEI

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT!

WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO REST!

WE HAVE TO WIN THE NATIO-NALS!!

I'M SORRY.

I THINK REST IS IMPORTANT, BUT...

NO AMOUNT OF TIME IS ENOUGH FOR US...

WE'LL INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF TRAINING-

THAT'S WHY, FROM TODAY ON

WE EVEN TOLD HIMESAKA THAT!

WHAT ...?

PAT

LOOSEN YOUR SHOULDERS.

YOU'D ALL BURN OUT BEFORE THE ACTUAL TOURNAMENT.

LISTEN UP.

IF YOU CARRIED ON AT THIS PACE TO THE NATIONALS,

SIGH

HONEST-LY...

I REALLY NEED TO EXPLAIN EVERYTHING OR YOU GUYS WON'T GET IT.

IT'S ALSO TO PREPARE.

WHEN I TOLD YOU TO "REST," I DIDN'T JUST MEAN YOUR BODY.

RAP

THAT'S WHY YOU'RE SO EMPTY RIGHT NOW.

GET IT?

YOU USED UP EVERYTHING YOU HAD.

AT THE PRELIM TOURNA-MENT,

YES.

PREPARE...?

WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU TRY TO RUN WITH AN EMPTY STOMACH?

I KNOW.

YOU FALL OVER!

IT'S HARD.

STRAIGHT

.....

.....

LIKE THE FEELING AFTER A HUGE PEE...?

EXACT-LY.

THAT'S IT.

THAT'S WHY YOU SHOULD EAT,

FILL YOURSELF WITH EMOTIONS AND ENJOYMENT.

STOCK-PILE YOUR STRENGTH.

LISTEN TO MUSIC, WATCH MOVIES, READ, DANCE AND HAVE FUN ANY WAY YOU LIKE.

REST FOR NOW

TO REACH EVEN HIGHER.

THERE'S NO MEETING TODAY AFTER SCHOOL!

THAT'S HOW IT IS.

GO TO YOUR CLASSES.

IF YOU GET IT, THEN LEAVE.

GHGH...

WHAT?!

WE'RE RETURNING TO THE USUAL CLUB SCHEDULE- AFTER SCHOOL ONLY.

BUT THERE WON'T BE ANY MORNING OR DAY TRAINING THIS YEAR.

THE CLUB STARTS TOMOR-ROW,

THAT BEING SAID...

How am I supposed to use all this energy?

Damn it! I still got my will-power!

HONEST-LY... THEY REALLY CAN'T REST LIKE NORMAL PEOPLE?

OH.

I NEED TO DO THIS WELL.

等曲部

THERE ARE ONLY 8 MONTHS LEFT...

LATER, TESTUKI.

WITH ALL MY STRENGTH.

TODAY I'M REST-ING

WHAT DO YOU THINK SCHOOL IS?

GO ALREADY.

FAR AWAY, IF POSSI-BLE.=_=

I FEEL LIKE HOTPOT RIGHT NOW.

OH, RIGHT I'M COMING OVER TO EAT LATER.

MUFFLED

THE CLUB MEETING IS OVER SO I'M GOING HOME.

HEY.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

CHIKA,

WHAT?

KURATA.

DEPRESSED...

I'M SUPPOSED TO BE THE LEADER BUT I JUST IGNORED OUR ADVISOR...

I'M JUST EXCITED ABOUT THE NATIONALS.

"I REALLY NEED TO EXPLAIN EVERYTHING OR YOU GUYS WON'T GET IT."

SIGH...

THOUGHT-LESS, HUH...

THANK YOU.

WORD TRAVELS FAST.

IT'S A PRETTY B G RUMOUR.

THE KOTO CLUB IS QUITE FAMOUS BECAUSE OF THE FIGHT YOU HAD.

I HEARD THE KOTO CLUB IS GOING TO THE NATIONALS?

CONGRATS.

!

SHIBUYA.

IS THAT SO...

WELL, THAT'S FINE BUT-

HEY! THE TWO LAME-OS THERE!

EH ...

NOW THE VICE-PRINCIPAL SAYS IT'S "BECAUSE OF THE TOUGH TRIAL I PUT THEM THROUGH,"

TRYING TO PUT A NICE SPIN ON IT.

ho ho ho

KURATA AND SHIBUYA!

HEY, MIYU!

WHY'D YOU CALL THEM THAT?!

A CHRISTMAS PARTY!

AT THE KARAOKE PLACE BY THE STATION.

A PARTY?

I SEE, CHRISTMAS ...

Whoa

SPOIL-SPORT.

I'LL PASS. NOT INTERESTED IN KARAOKE.

Right, it's around that time.

SAEKI-SAN AND KURUSU-SAN.

WHAT'S UP?

AFTER THE GRADUATION CEREMONY IN DECEMBER,

WE'RE HOLDING A CLASS CHRISTMAS PARTY. YOU TWO COMING?

AH... YEAH, THAT'S THE PLAN, BUT...

WE CAN'T DO IT EITHER, CAN WE?

WE HAVE CLUB PRACTISE THAT DAY.

WHAT?!

SENSEI MENTIONED HOW WE WOULDN'T HAVE THAT MUCH PRACTISE THIS YEAR.

WE MIGHT ONLY HAVE A MEETING THAT DAY...

CAN YOU COME TOO?

AH...

THEN...

EH?

REALLY ?!

THEN HIRO CAN COME, RIGHT?

YES.

It's been so long!

AH, NO,

KARAOKE REALLY ISN'T MY THING, SO I'LL-

....

I'LL DROP BY

BUT NOT THE WHOLE NIGHT...

OKAY!

KURATA AND I ARE GOING!! FOR NOW, AT LEAST.

I KNEW YOU WOULD~

NOPE NOPE NOPE.

YEAH.

NO WAY.

NOPE.

NO...

.....

You look so happy~

Hiro, you're grinning.

NOT HAVING A CLUB MEETING IS REALLY WEIRD...

Are these withdrawal symptoms?

SCRATCH

"NAH~ IF THERE'S NO MEETING, I'M GOING HOME."

"KUDOU? YOU'RE NOT GOING TO CLASS?"

THERE'S SOME-ONE I WANT TO TELL ABOUT THE NATIONALS.

IS IT GRANDPA?

WANT TO COME WITH ME?

YOU KNEW?

A BIT.

HUH...?

FLINCH

Totally.

No way, man!

KYA HA HA HA!

TH-THAT'S ...

AH

EH

SEE YA TOMORROW.

Well, I thought as much.

wa ha ha

I-

THERE'S NO WAY I'M SKIPPING CLASS.

I REALLY SHOULD'VE GONE WITH HIM.

I SHOULD'VE GONE.

...

BONK

I WANTED TO GO.

FOR SALE

33rd Kanagawa prefecture nationals preliminary tournament

First place

tap

shaaa

MISSED US? ♡

HAHA...

ehe he he! ♡

Yay! Tetsuki~

sigh

YOU CAME AFTER ALL.

WHEN YOU'RE FINALLY FREE OF ALL WORK, THIS IS WHERE YOU GO?

DON'T BE LIKE THAT.

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE LAST WERE HERE.

WE ALREADY GOT THE INGREDIENTS. ☆

LET'S COOK HOTPOT WITH EVERYONE. ♡

ARE YOU TELEPATHICALLY CONNECTED TO CHIKA?

HEY, CHIKA!! I KNEW YOU WERE HERE!

WHAT TOOK YOU GUYS SO LONG?

WE AREN'T LIKE YOU!

WE WERE DILIGENTLY GOING TO CLASS!

WHAT'VE YOU BEEN DOING THIS WHOLE TIME?

ME?

Yaay! Chika!

You lazy ass

WELL, I WENT FIRST TO VISIT GRANDPA,

THEN I GOT SCOLDED BY GRANDMA WHEN SHE REALIZED I WASN'T IN SCHOOL,

THEN THE POLICE STARTED CHASING ME,

Uwooh!

Hey, you! Go to school!

THEN I WENT AS FAR AS I COULD ON THE TRAIN AND DIDN'T HAVE ANY MONEY FOR A RETURN TICKET.

AND, AS THE SETTING SUN PAINTED THE HORIZON RED, I WALKED THROUGH THREE STATIONS TO GET HERE.

THIS HOW YOU SPEND YOUR IMPORTANT RESTING TIME?

WAIT, "AS FAR AS YOU COULD" WAS JUST THREE STATIONS?

WOW !

Testuk there's still some left Haha

Don't play in the krtchen!

JUMP

Haha~ This is nothing!

WE'LL JUST END UP BEING IN YOUR WAY.

I'LL PUNISH YOU!.

C'MON! HELP A LITTLE, WILL YOU!

Stop lazing around!

IT LOOKS SO GOOD!!

WOOOW AMAZING!

DIG IN!!

TIME TO

I WANT MY BREAK-FAST TO BE A STRAW-BERRY SANDWICH.

HUH?

WHO SAYS YOU'RE STAYING?

IT'S TOO GOOD ...

OH...

MM MM...

BEECAAUSE, STARTING TOMORROW WE HAVE NO MORNING PRACTISE.

YEAH!

ME TOO.

I'M 100% SURE I'M WAKING UP AT 4 ANYWAY THOUGH.

BUT...

THIS KIND OF THING FEELS GOOD EVERY NOW AND THEN

CHIKA'S BAD IN THE MORNINGS.

THIS WHOLE THING FEELS SORT OF LIKE A RESET. I'M... REFRESHED.

I GOT ANXIOUS JUST THINKING, "CAN I?!"

WHEN SUZUKI-CHAN -SENSEI TOLD US TO REST...

RIGHT?

I CAN FACE THE KOTO ANEW.

THANKS TO THIS, STARTING TOMORROW

Uwooh! Go Go!
Kouta! Stop using a shortcut

YEAH!
BUT BEFORE THAT, SECONDS!
ALL RIGHT!! LET'S PLAY AND HAVE FUN THE WHOLE NIGHT!
YOU'RE FAST!!

THE RUNNING DEAD

Oh! Sounds interesting!
I have some foreign dramas
Can't you recommend something?

The Blood!!
AAAH! disgust-ing!
It's
Don't come closer!
Kyaa ah!

BANG!
!?
Hahaha you wussy
AH ...!!

Wa ha ha!

When did that happen?

Because it's my bed

It's unfair Chika always gets the bed

Here's a futon

Thanks

So soft

"I'M 100% SURE I'M WAKING UP AT 4 ANYWAY THOUGH."

"YEAH!"

DAMN... I OVERSLEPT.

0.

DAMN!

SNORE

Hah

BREATHE

MUMBLE

MUMBLE

Z Z Z

Z Z

SNORE

SNORE

WELL...

FOR A BUNCH OF KIDS WHO DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WHAT KOTO WAS LAST YEAR.

TO HAVE WORKED SO HARD,

YOU DESERVE A REST.

THE NEW YEAR CONCERT?

HM?

NO WAY... AREN'T WE LIKE STARS NOW?

SO COOL...

WELL, YOU ARE THE KANAGAWA REPRESENTATIVES.

YES. YOU GOT A REQUEST TO PLAY AT THE KANAGAWA SHOPPING CENTER ON JANUARY 7TH.

A-A REAL RE-QUEST?!

WHERE ARE WE PLAYING IN THE MALL?

PROBABLY A SPECIAL STAGE.

THEY WANT YOU TO PLAY AROUND THREE SONGS.

THREE ...?

JUST PLAY EASY STUFF.

WE'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING FOR THE NATIO-NALS?

I ALREADY SAID WE'RE NOT GOING TO THIS YEAR.

SO, ONCE THIS IS DONE, DECIDE ON THE NATIONALS SONG

AND ALSO PRACTICE A SONG TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS.

!

THAT'S RIGHT! MEMBERS ...

OH YEAH, FRESHMEN COME IN APRIL!

WHOA, THEN WE'LL BE SENPAI?!

DEPRESSED

AND...

WE'LL BE SENIORS ...

Tests Applications

HERE'S THE SHEET MUSIC.

ANYHOW, THAT'S WHAT WE'LL BE DOING.

STARTING TODAY, WE'LL BE PRACTISING FOR THE NEW YEAR'S CONCERT.

IT'S PLAYED OFTEN DURING NEW YEAR'S.

YOU'LL PROBABLY RECOGNIZE IT WHEN YOU HEAR IT.

I FIGURED A SONG YOU HAD ALREADY HEARD WOULD BE EASY.

WHAT'S THE SONG?

I ARRANGED SOME NEW YEAR-Y SONGS.

IT'S A MIXED VERSION OF "THE SEA IN THE SPRING."

"THE SEA IN THE SPRING"?

I'LL DO IT!!

SO HOW ABOUT PLAYING KUON AGAIN?

I THOUGHT HAVING THREE NEW PIECES WOULD BE TOUGH,

AS FOR THE OTHER SONG, AND

...

I CAN'T REMEMBER IT ANY-MORE...

Damn

GLARE

I SCREW-ED UP BEFORE, BUT IT'S PAYBACK TIME!!

O-OH

REALLY ...?

UWOOOH!! IT'S KUON PAYBACK TIME! I'M PUMPED!

IT'S ALL RIGHT.

YOU ALREADY KNOW THE SONG.

ONCE YOU START PLAYING, YOU'LL REMEM-BER.

SOME-
HOW...

heh

Yeah!
I'm going
to play it
so much
better
this time!

SOMEHOW,
SKIPPING
JUST ONE
DAY

MAKES
THIS ALL
FEEL SO
NOSTALGIC.

RIGHT?

I WAS THINKING THE SAME THING.

AHA HA!

YES, SIR!!

LET'S START PRAC-TISING!

ALL RIGHT THEN!

軽音楽部

VOLUME 14 END

どうも
アミューです

14巻も
読んで頂き
ありがとう
ございました

13巻の巻末でも
お伝えしましたが

来たる
3月8日…

ついに
ついに…!!

キングレコードさんに
お話を頂いてから
約2年…

ついに完成しました!

最高の演奏者さま
最高のスタッフさま
そして
信頼感が半端ない
作曲家陣による
最高のCDが…!!

CD制作に
関しては
私もかなり
がっつり関わらせて
頂いたのですが…
いや もうほんと…

オリジナル楽曲に
関しては
「龍星群」・「久遠」同様
「天泣」→姉作曲
「堅香子」→母作曲

というカタチに

「身内という」
強みを生かして
無茶ぶりをしまくり
「天泣」に関しては
なんと着手から完成まで
およそ1年がかり…!

何度も打ち合わせを
してリテイクを重ね
私が作中で天泣を
描き終えるまでは
完成も待ってもらう
というわがままっぷり

堅香子も
「古典と間違えるような
つくり」
「静かで
地味だけど
引き込まれる」
「侘び寂び」「茶室」
「宇宙」と…

我ながらひどい注文を
してるなと思いつつ
依頼

そして
演奏者さまは…
姫坂の演奏は
何よりそろえ！
そして鋭さよね
でも女子高だから
きっと繊細さも
あると思うわ！
永大の
さらしは
速さ これくらい？
そんなんじゃ
フツーだろ
みろよ
この絵を！
3倍速だ
3倍速！

…と
「どう演奏すれば
この学校の演奏に
なるか」
「より漫画の
世界観を出せるか」
沢山意見を出し
試し
「これでもか！」
というぐらい
漫画にそしてCDの
コンセプトに寄せて
弾いて下さいました

ちなみに
アルバムの中には
あまり上手くない
「武蔵の六段」
…という
とんでもないものも
収録して頂いてるんですが…
※新入生歓迎会の時の演奏

たけもと役
M原さん
（もろ本人ウケ）
うーん
あまり上手くない
高校生の演奏…
ちょっと家で
研究してきます

みんなでも
意見を出し合い

これとか
ニーゆーとこ
できないよ
多いよ！

押し手は
絶対
不安定！

演奏者さまざま

下手な演奏の練習…
（どーいうことなんだ…）

く…

どうしても
〝うまみ〟が
でてしまう！

そして本番
他の演奏者さん
全員が見守る中での
演奏…

完全に
新入生歓迎会の時の
武蔵でした

武蔵おおお

周りもみんな
大喝采

すげー
ブラボー
ヒュー

武蔵の誠実さは
入れたつもりです

超でてました!!

六段は
比較として
さとわバージョンも
収録

もう
自由に！
思いきり
うたっちゃって
下さい！　あと高音に
色気を
お願いします！

ややってみます

――録音

さとわアアア
うわぁありがとう
ございます
プロすごい

すごい…
ドクッ
ドクッ
なんだ
この感覚は…
ドクッ
次々と作中の音が
再現されていく…！

楽し
すぎる…!!!

スタッフ様も みな様
素敵な方ばかりで…

レコーディング
ディレクターの
国崎さんは

私の超抽象的な
要望を

ここを
こーゆ
感じに

しどう もどう

あー
なるほど！

と即理解して
的確に
演奏者さんに
伝えて
下さったり

目からウロコな
アドバイスを沢山
下さったり

おお…
今度 漫画に
使わせて頂こう…

勉強になること
ばかりでした

そして個人的に
「渋い!!」と思った
エピソードが

じゃあそうそう
リハ始めまーす
はーい

演奏者さんたち

一応これも
録っておいて
下さい

はい

タタン！

じゃあ一応
演奏者さんにも
お伝えしますね

ディレクター
渡さん
この方がいなければ
そもそもCDが出ることは
なかった…!!
感謝しかありません…
そしてかわいい

みなさん
一応リハも
録――

録音ブースと
つながってるマイク

レコーディングエンジニア
須賀さん
いーの
黙っておけば
録るって言ったら
かたくなっちゃう
から
リラックスしてる方が
いいもの録れたり
するからね

かかっけー
実際 本当に
その通りで
演奏者さんが
録音の合間に
練習している時
！

今の弾き方
すごくいい!!
今の使いたい!!
あの…今のって
録ってないですよね
アシスタント
エンジニア
高橋さん
録れてます
ひえー
でで出来るお方…!!

さらにさらに
なんと！

ボーナストラックとして
音楽界の第一線で
ご活躍されている
作曲家の
和田 薫先生が!!
書き下ろしの楽曲を
提供して下さいました！

とんでもない
豪華さ!!!

ここまで
色々裏話を
書いてきましたが
何が言いたいかと
言うと

とにかく
聴いてみて下さい!!
よろしくお願い
いたします!!!

この音とまれ！
時瀬高等学校箏曲部

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壱川七宇 様　大河内黒 様　中村亜也 様
島村真人 様　（順不同）

毎月素晴らしい技術と
笑いをありがとうございます！

担当編集
林士平 様

いつもピンチに柔軟で対応して下さり
ありがとうございます！

コミックス編集　黒木竜介 様
コミックスデザイン　石野竜生 様

沢山わがままにお付き合わせて
すみません…ありがとうございます！

家族
友だち

いなまや他理です。
本当にありがとう！

この本に携わって下さった
全てのみな様
そして読んで下さった
みな様
本当にありがとうございました…!!

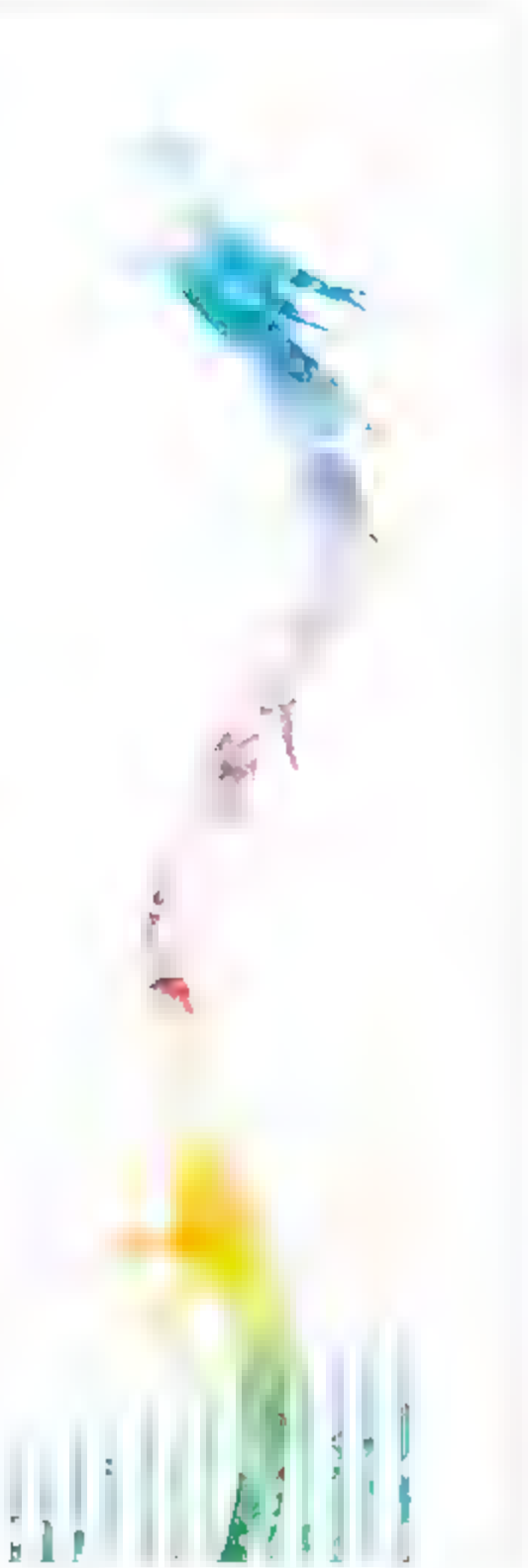
15巻も
よろしくお願い
いたします！

JUMP COMICS SQ.

この音とまれ！ 14

アミュー

集英社



アミュー

14巻です。

この巻でようやく予選編は終了です。
そして湘瀬のみんなが弾いた
「天泣」を含むCDも発売になります。

ありがたいなぁ…！

漫画とあわせて聴いて頂けたら
すごく嬉しいです！

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※表記はコミックス発売当時のものになります。

この音とまれ!

本体・表紙

※表記はコミックス発売当時のものになります。

JUMP COMICS ジャンプ コミックス

本体・裏表紙

※表記はコミックス発売当時のものになります。

この音とまれ！

14巻

アミュー

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この音とまれ！ By Amyuu

Translator: Dancefag Editor: anon Proofreader: Lyn

Don't forget to support the mangaka/author if you can.